

Safety On The Road

Blend Right Into Freeway Traffic

Being alert and adjusting your speed are the keys to safely entering and exiting a freeway. Frequent mistakes when entering a freeway include suddenly slowing or stopping, or merging at too low a speed. Failure to slow down on the exit ramp is also a common error when leaving a freeway.

Here are some tips for safely entering a multi-lane controlled-access highway:

- Signal and accelerate to the speed of the other vehicles.
- Keep checking the freeway traffic by looking in your sideview mirror and over your shoulder.
- Keep glancing at the vehicles ahead of you to make sure they aren't stopping or slowing unexpectedly. Allow extra distance between you and the vehicle ahead to prevent a rear-end collision in case someone stops.
- Use the whole acceleration lane before merging with other traffic rather than cutting across the dividing line.
- Find a gap in the traffic before attempting to enter. Time your arrival to merge into the gap. Blend in with through traffic.
- If the traffic is heavy, slow down and wait until it is safe to enter. Do not stop except in an emergency such as the vehicle ahead of you stopping, or traffic so heavy there is no gap for you to enter.
- Some freeway entrances may have little or no space to accelerate. In these cases, you may be required to yield the right-of-way before entering. In this case you would have to wait for a longer gap and accelerate rapidly to enter the traffic.

These are reminders about safe exiting of an expressway:

- Move into the proper exit lane.
- Signal before entering the deceleration lane.
- Maintain your speed until you are off the highway and in the deceleration lane.
- In cloverleaves, or other interchanges, allow accelerating

traffic to exit the area before proceeding.

- Slow down to the exit speed limit. Check your speedometer to make sure you are going slowly enough. Exit speed will feel like a crawl after expressway speeds. Make sure you have slowed down enough to negotiate corners on the exit ramp and intersections at the end of it. Learn to turn and slow down by becoming familiar with appropriate speeds. Most freeway drivers, especially if they have been driving for miles, under-estimate off-ramp speed.
- If you have taken the wrong exit, continue along it and plan to re-enter the freeway from the next entrance. Do not back up, and do not try to drive across a divider strip to return to through lanes.

You may be an individualistic person, but one situation where it is important to blend right in is when entering a freeway. When exiting, don't slow down too soon or you will disrupt traffic. However, you must slow down promptly once you are in the deceleration lane to safely enter low-speed streets.

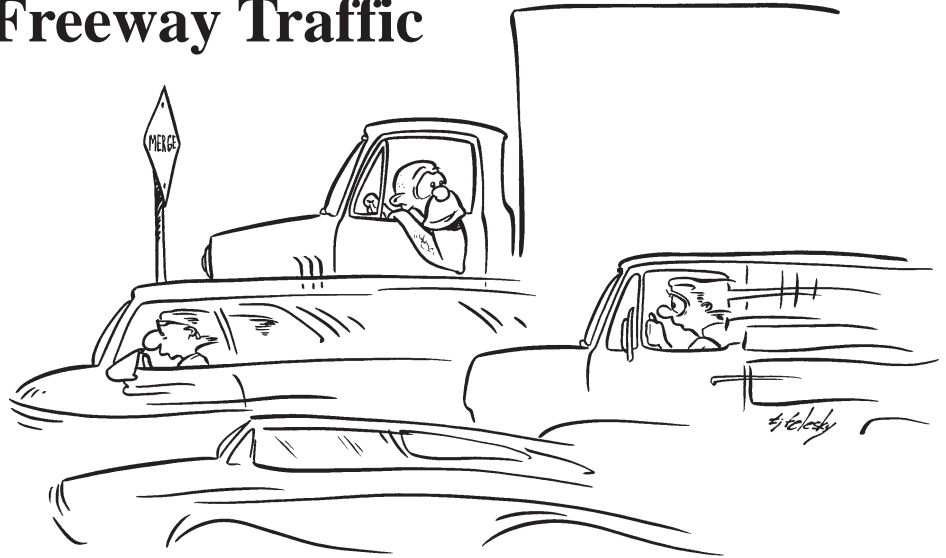
Safety On The Road

Blend Right Into Freeway Traffic

Being alert and adjusting your speed are the keys to safely entering and exiting a freeway. Frequent mistakes when entering a freeway include suddenly slowing or stopping, or merging at too low a speed. Failure to slow down on the exit ramp is also a common error when leaving a freeway.

Here are some tips for safely entering a multi-lane controlled-access highway:

- Signal and accelerate to the speed of the other vehicles.
- Keep checking the freeway traffic by looking in your sideview mirror and over your shoulder.
- Keep glancing at the vehicles ahead of you to make sure they aren't stopping or slowing unexpectedly. Allow extra distance between you and the vehicle ahead to prevent a rear-end collision in case someone stops.
- Use the whole acceleration lane before merging with other traffic rather than cutting across the dividing line.
- Find a gap in the traffic before attempting to enter. Time your arrival to merge into the gap. Blend in with through traffic.
- If the traffic is heavy, slow down and wait until it is safe to enter. Do not stop except in an emergency such as the vehicle ahead of you stopping, or traffic so heavy there is no gap for you to enter.
- Some freeway entrances may have little or no space to accelerate. In these



cases, you may be required to yield the right-of-way before entering. In this case you would have to wait for a longer gap and accelerate rapidly to enter the traffic.

- Turn off your turn signal once you are traveling in the through lane.

These are reminders about safe exiting of an expressway:

- Move into the proper exit lane.
- Signal before entering the deceleration lane.
- Maintain your speed until you are off the highway and in the deceleration lane.
- In cloverleaves, or other interchanges, allow accelerating traffic to exit the area before proceeding.
- Slow down to the exit speed limit. Check your speedometer to make sure you are going slowly enough. Exit speed

will feel like a crawl after expressway speeds. Make sure you have slowed down enough to negotiate corners on the exit ramp and intersections at the end of it. Learn to turn and slow down by becoming familiar with appropriate speeds. Most freeway drivers, especially if they have been driving for miles, under-estimate off-ramp speed.

- If you have taken the wrong exit, continue along it and plan to re-enter the freeway from the next entrance. Do not back up, and do not try to drive across a divider strip to return to through lanes.

You may be an individualistic person, but one situation where it is important to blend right in is when entering a freeway. When exiting, don't slow down too soon or you will disrupt traffic. However, you must slow down promptly once you are in the deceleration lane to safely enter low-speed streets.

The information presented in Copy Ready! has been compiled from various sources which are believed to be reliable. However, it cannot be assumed that all acceptable measures are contained in this article nor that additional measures may not be required under particular or exceptional circumstances, or your own company procedures, or by federal, state/provincial and local law. Copy Ready! is intended for in-house use only — commercial reproduction is a violation of our copyright agreement.

For a complete catalog of Bongarde Communications Ltd. products please call 1-800-667-9300 or visit us at www.safetysmart.com.

© MCMXCVII Bongarde Communications Ltd.

#V6142

Safety On The Road

Blend Right Into Freeway Traffic

Being alert and adjusting your speed are the keys to safely entering and exiting a freeway. Frequent mistakes when entering a freeway include suddenly slowing or stopping, or merging at too low a speed. Failure to slow down on the exit ramp is also a common error when leaving a freeway.

Here are some tips for safely entering a multi-lane controlled-access highway:

- Signal and accelerate to the speed of the other vehicles.
- Keep checking the freeway traffic by looking in your sideview mirror and over your shoulder.
- Keep glancing at the vehicles ahead of you to make sure they aren't stopping or slowing unexpectedly. Allow extra distance between you and the vehicle ahead to prevent a rear-end collision in case someone stops.
- Use the whole acceleration lane before merging with other traffic rather than cutting across the dividing line.
- Find a gap in the traffic before attempting to enter. Time your arrival to merge into the gap. Blend in with through traffic.
- If the traffic is heavy, slow down and wait until it is safe to enter. Do not stop except in an emergency such as the vehicle ahead of you stopping, or traffic so heavy there is no gap for you to enter.
- Some freeway entrances may have little or no space to accelerate. In these



cases, you may be required to yield the right-of-way before entering. In this case you would have to wait for a longer gap and accelerate rapidly to enter the traffic.

- Turn off your turn signal once you are traveling in the through lane.

These are reminders about safe exiting of an expressway:

- Move into the proper exit lane.
- Signal before entering the deceleration lane.
- Maintain your speed until you are off the highway and in the deceleration lane.
- In cloverleaves, or other interchanges, allow accelerating traffic to exit the area before proceeding.
- Slow down to the exit speed limit. Check your speedometer to make sure you are going slowly enough. Exit speed

will feel like a crawl after expressway speeds. Make sure you have slowed down enough to negotiate corners on the exit ramp and intersections at the end of it. Learn to turn and slow down by becoming familiar with appropriate speeds. Most freeway drivers, especially if they have been driving for miles, under-estimate off-ramp speed.

- If you have taken the wrong exit, continue along it and plan to re-enter the freeway from the next entrance. Do not back up, and do not try to drive across a divider strip to return to through lanes.

You may be an individualistic person, but one situation where it is important to blend right in is when entering a freeway. When exiting, don't slow down too soon or you will disrupt traffic. However, you must slow down promptly once you are in the deceleration lane to safely enter low-speed streets.

The information presented in Copy Ready! has been compiled from various sources which are believed to be reliable. However, it cannot be assumed that all acceptable measures are contained in this article nor that additional measures may not be required under particular or exceptional circumstances, or your own company procedures, or by federal, state/provincial and local law. Copy Ready! is intended for in-house use only — commercial reproduction is a violation of our copyright agreement.

For a complete catalog of Bongarde Communications Ltd. products please call 1-800-667-9300 or visit us at www.safetysmart.com.

© MCMXCVII Bongarde Communications Ltd.

#V6142